the BCG prevention trial conducted by Tuberculosis Research Centre, Chennai reiterated the findings made in the earlier report that was published in 1980. The report indicates that BCG offered no overall protection in adults and a low level of overall protection against pulmonary tuberculosis in children. However, results of studies on protective effect of BCG on TB meningitis and miliary tuberculosis (which are severe forms of tuberculosis) done in India and abroad have shown that BCG offers substantial protection against these two forms of tuberculosis in children (about 70%).

(b) BCG vaccination is not recommended as a routine strategey for TB control in the United States, therefore, the question of stopping BCG vaccine does not arise.

(c) The ICMR is of the opinion that BCG vaccination in infants should continue under the Universal Immunization Programme in India in view of its value in preventing childhood forms of tuberculosis (especially TB meningitis & miliary TB).

Unsatisfactory Conditions in Safdarjung Hospital

454. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a series of articles published in the Hindustan Times dated 2nd, 15th and 23rd October, 1999 highlighting the conditions of the Safdarjung Hospital labelled by the Hospital Authorities as one of the Asia's biggest Hospitals;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a Commission to look in to the various lapses of Hospital administration, poor maintenance and unsatisfactory medical attention?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached. (*see* below);

(c) There is no such proposal.

Statement

Issues Mentioned in the News Reports Action taken by the Government

The News Report dt. 2nd October, 1999 inter-alia mentioned about the non-satisfactory condition of the hospital with regard to cleanliness, non-cleanliness of the water tank since last April, non-functioning of CSSD Unit leading to shortage of glass syringes, coming back of linen from laundry with blood stains, presence of malbas in the hospital premises, non-functioning of CT Scan, recycling of syringes, etc.

The News Report dt. 15th Oct., 1999 inter-alia mentioned that in-service training course in Medical Lab. Technology falls far short of the academic requirement set out for Lab. Technicians, 9th standard drop out are becoming Lab. Technicians, and that Trolley pushers and sweepers are becoming Lab. Technicians.

The sanitation in the hospital is attended to and monitored by a Sanitation Monitoring Committee. The sumpwell was cleaned in December, 1998 and overhead tank in June, 1999. The CSSD Unit is functioning properly and disposable syringes are supplied instead of glass syringes. All the areas in the hospital are supplied with sterilized gloves. No instance of recycling of syringes has been reported. The CT Scan which was out of order for want of CT Scan Tube, is functioning at present.

The in-service training in Laboratory of one year duration is a course approved by Director General of Health Services. The in-service candidate having minimum qualification S.S.C. with science or Matriculation without science with laboratory experience are eligible. For external candidates advertisement is given in the News Papers. No external candidate having qualification of matric with Science having less than 60% of marks is given admission. The selection of the candidate for admission to the course is done by a constituted Committee.

Recognition of Dental Colleges in Karnataka

455. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of dental colleges in Karnataka which are yet to be recognised;

(b) the reasons for not giving recognition to them; and

(c) by when government are likely to convey their decision as per the provisions of the Dental Council Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The recommendation of Dental Council of India under Section 10(2) of the Dentist Act, 1948 for recognition of BDS degree of the following 12 dental colleges granted permission under Section 10A of Dentists (Amendment) Act, 1993 have not been received:—

1. Oxford Dental College, Bangalore.

2. Farooquia Dental College, Mysore.

3. K.L.E. Society Dental College, Bangalore.

4. Shrivathi Dental College, Shimoga.

5. Maratha Mandal's Dental College & Research Central, Belgaum.